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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**TOM HARMAN**  
SENATE MINORITY WHIP  
THIRTY-FIFTH SENATE DISTRICT



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GOVERNMENTAL  
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VICE CHAIR  
BANKING, FINANCE  
& INSURANCE  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 4  
TRANSPORTATION  
& HOUSING

August 26, 2011

Honorable Douglas Bosco  
Chairman  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

**RE: SUPPORT - Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority: Conceptual Restoration  
Plan (File number 98-015-05), September 22, 2011 agenda**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority's application requesting a California Coastal Conservancy grant of \$225,000. This grant would help fund a conceptual restoration plan for the entire Los Cerritos Wetlands complex in Long Beach and Seal Beach.

Because of the efforts of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority, a unique and increasingly rare coastal habitat was preserved, acquired, and ultimately will be restored. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority has brought the community together to protect a vanishing ecosystem. Approval of this funding will be a significant first step in restoring the Los Cerritos Wetlands as a regional resource of coastal wetlands and habitat for native wildlife.

I strongly recommend the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority's application for Conservancy grant funds. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at 916-651-4035.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Harman". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "T" and "H".

TOM HARMAN  
Senator, 35<sup>th</sup> District

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[www.sen.ca.gov/lowenthal](http://www.sen.ca.gov/lowenthal)

## California State Senate

SENATOR

**ALAN LOWENTHAL**

TWENTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT

*Representing the communities of Artesia, Avalon, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey,  
Florence-Graham, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Lynwood,  
Paramount, Signal Hill, South Gate and Willowbrook*

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SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
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CHAIR

MEMBER  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #2  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
INSURANCE  
TRANSPORTATION &  
HOUSING

August 24, 2011

The Honorable Douglas Bosco, Chair  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in strong support of the proposed State Coastal Conservancy grant to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA). The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority was established as a joint powers authority in 2006 for the purposes of restoration, conservation and preservation. LCWA members include the cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach, the State Coastal Conservancy and the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

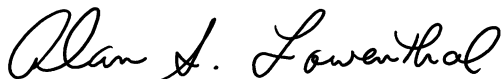
The \$225,000 grant that the California Coastal Conservancy has proposed to award to the LCWA would be used for developing a conceptual restoration plan for the Los Cerritos Wetlands area. This tidal marsh is widely regarded as the last remaining one in a region that spans Los Angeles and Orange County.

The conservation and restoration of the Los Cerritos Wetlands is a high priority for the residents of the 27<sup>th</sup> Senate District that I represent. The LCWA has worked tirelessly to bring over 200 acres of wetlands, previously owned by private developers, into public trust. I recently attended a celebration of the largest wetlands acquisition the LCWA has completed to date.

The conceptual restoration plan will improve habitat for various species of birds that depend on the Los Cerritos Wetlands as an essential link in their migratory path along the Pacific coast. The plan will create an enhanced educational experience for visitors to the Los Cerritos Wetlands.

Thank you for your consideration regarding Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority grant funds from the California Coastal Conservancy as proposed by (File Number 98-015-05) on the Conservancy's September 22, 2011 agenda.

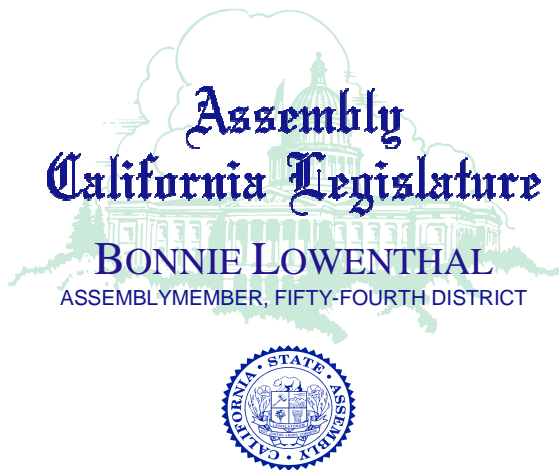
Sincerely,



Alan S. Lowenthal  
State Senator, 27<sup>th</sup> District

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**COMMITTEES**  
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JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT, CHAIR  
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ACCOUNTABILITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE  
REVIEW  
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ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY & TOXIC MATERIALS  
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

August 23, 2011

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, California 94612

**RE: Support for Los Cerritos Restoration Project Grant Proposal**

Dear Mr. Bosco;

I would like to express my strong support for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority's application for funding to complete a comprehensive conceptual plan for restoration of the Los Cerritos Wetlands complex in Long Beach and Seal Beach.

As I am sure you know, Los Cerritos Wetlands is a 450-acre mixture of publicly- and privately-owned properties, land uses and resources located along Pacific Coast Highway, the lower reach of the San Gabriel River, and the Los Angeles-Orange county border. Over the years various agencies and organizations prepared a number of studies and partial restoration plans for portions of the wetlands, but none offers a comprehensive strategy for restoration of the entire wetland area over time. Finally a critical mass of wetland acreage is in public ownership and the LCWA would like to begin restoration of those properties in the near future. But it wants to insure that any near-term work would be compatible with the potential restoration of adjacent properties that are now in private ownership but could someday be available for acquisition by the LCWA for conservation and restoration.

As a former City Councilmember for the City of Long Beach and as the Assemblymember who represents the Long Beach portion of the project area I have a long history of working closely with LCWA and its various member agencies. This funding to LCWA would be vital in enabling them to make long-term plans leading to their ultimate goal of preserving and restoring important urban wetlands. Therefore, it is for all of these reasons that I extend my full support of Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority's application. I hope you will likewise support and fund this vital project and I thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

BONNIE LOWENTHAL  
Assemblymember, 54<sup>th</sup> District

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COMMITTEES  
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MEMBER  
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, SPORTS,  
TOURISM AND INTERNET MEDIA  
ETHICS  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
HEALTH

August 19, 2011

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, California 94612

**Re: Los Cerritos Wetlands: Conceptual Restoration Plan**  
(File number 98-015-05), September 22, 2011 agenda

Dear Mr. Bosco:

It is my pleasure to extend my support for the proposed grant by the Coastal Conservancy to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for preparation of a conceptual restoration plan for the Los Cerritos Wetlands in Seal Beach and Long Beach.

For the past several decades, the conservation and restoration of the Los Cerritos Wetlands has been an important priority for the people of my legislative district. As envisioned by the LCWA and its partners in the community, the restoration plan will provide a comprehensive and coordinated road map to guide restoration of and public access to the complex in the future. It will not only enhance the habitat of important migratory species along the Pacific Flyway, but will also help ensure that in the years to come the public will enjoy a memorable experience when visiting the wetlands.

The additional funds to be supplied by the Coastal Conservancy will make an important difference in the development of the plan. The grant has my strong support and I would ask that you give it your fullest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Silva". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jim Silva, Member  
California State Assembly, 67th District

**RECEIVED**  
AUG 22 2011  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



August 22, 2011

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, California 94612

**Re: Letter of Support for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program Los Cerritos Wetlands:  
Conceptual Restoration Plan (File number 98-015-05), September 22, 2011**

Dear Mr. Douglas Bosco:

Tidal Influence fully supports the Coastal Conservancy's Staff Recommendation to fund the Los Cerritos Wetlands Conceptual Restoration Plan. The Coastal Conservancy grant is intended to supplement the funding that has been provided by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for this project and allow the LCWA to complete the full scope of work contemplated for the planning effort across the entire 450 acres of the complex.

The Los Cerritos Wetlands Complex is one of the few remaining opportunities in southern California for restoration of estuarine habitat and has been sought by public agencies and environmentalists for habitat protection and restoration for over twenty years. Therefore, in February of 2006 the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy, City of Long Beach and City of Seal Beach formed the LCWA to address the complexities of acquiring and restoring these wetlands.

The LCWA has a valuable mission of acquiring, protecting and restoring Los Cerritos Wetlands. To date the LCWA has acquired approximately 200 acres and have implemented the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program which is designed to promote community involvement with environmental education, maintenance, restoration and monitoring of the wetlands areas

Tidal Influence is very pleased to support the Coastal Conservancy's Staff Recommendation to authorize \$225,000 to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for preparation of a conceptual restoration plan for the Los Cerritos Wetlands complex.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant. If you have, any questions please feel free to contact me at 562.331.0226 or [Taylor@tidalinfluence.com](mailto:Taylor@tidalinfluence.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Taylor Parker", is written over a light gray, textured background that resembles a piece of paper or a stamp.

Taylor Parker  
Co-Principal  
Tidal Influence





August 24, 2011

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, California 94612

**Re: Letter of Support for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program  
Los Cerritos Wetlands: Conceptual Restoration Plan (File number 98-015-05), September 22, 2011**

Dear Mr. Douglas Bosco:


Save Our Beach fully supports the Coastal Conservancy's Staff Recommendation to Coastal Conservancy grant is intended to supplement the funding that has been provided by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for this project and allow LCWA to complete the full scope of work contemplated for the planning effort across the entire 450 acres of the complex. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Complex is one of the few remaining opportunities in southern California for restoration of estuarine habitat and has been sought by public agencies and environmentalists for habitat protection and restoration for over twenty years. Therefore, in February of 2006 the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy, City of Long Beach and City of Seal Beach formed the LCWA to address the complexities of acquiring and restoring these wetlands.

The purpose of the LCWA is to provide for a comprehensive program of acquisition, protection, conservation, restoration, maintenance and operation and environmental enhancement of the Los Cerritos Wetlands area consistent with the goals of flood protection, habitat protection, restoration and improved water supply, water quality, groundwater recharge and water conservation. The LCWA has acquired approximately 200 acres and has implemented the Los Cerritos Wetlands Stewardship Program which is designed to promote community involvement with environmental education, maintenance, restoration and monitoring of the wetlands areas.

Save Our Beach is very pleased to support the Coastal Conservancy's Staff Recommendation to authorize \$225,000 to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for preparation of a conceptual restoration plan for the Los Cerritos Wetlands complex.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant. If you have, any questions please feel free to contact me at (562) 884-6764 or [kim@saveourbeach.org](mailto:kim@saveourbeach.org).

Respectfully

  
Kim Masoner, Founder  
Save Our Beach  
[www.saveourbeach.org](http://www.saveourbeach.org)

Save Our Beach  
213 Ocean Ave., Suite B, Seal Beach, CA 90740

El Dorado Audubon Society

Celebrating 43 Years of Education, Conservation & Citizen Science

August 20, 2011

Mr. Bob Thiel  
Coastal Conservancy  
PO Box 23440  
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

Dear Mr. Thiel:

On behalf of El Dorado Audubon Society (Long Beach & Seal Beach), a California Chapter of The National Audubon Society, I am writing to support:

RE: Los Cerritos Wetlands: Conceptual Restoration Plan, Project No. 98-015-05  
Authorization to disburse up to \$225,000 to the LCWA for preparation of a conceptual restoration plan for the Los Cerritos wetlands complex.

Los Cerritos Wetlands is identified as Audubon California "Important Bird Area." The IBA includes Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, Bolsa Chica, Huntington Wetlands and Upper Newport Back Bay and is important to numerous species of both resident and migratory birds of the Pacific Flyway.

What exists now is what is left of what once was a 2,400 acre estuary at the mouth of the San Gabriel River. Each of the area including Los Cerritos can be considered an "Important Bird Area".

We agree that though a number of studies and partial restoration plans for portions of the wetlands have been prepared that none "offers a comprehensive strategy for restoration of the entire wetland area over time".

We celebrate the acquisition of just over 200 acres into public ownership and wholeheartedly support comprehensive planning for the entire complex of 450 acres. The staff recommendation offers a "coordinated restoration vision", indeed.

El Dorado Audubon has worked toward preservation of our nation's wetlands for more than thirty years. Los Cerritos is one of our local "jewels" along the string of pearls on our coast. I have heard it said that, "we will be remembered for what we save" and I think that comprehensive planning taking into account many factors is one of the best ways that we can ensure a healthy wetlands ecosystem for future generations.

Sincerely,

Mary Parsell  
President